GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:277
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2001
DEFENCE BUDGET
PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the proportionate increase in Defence Budget share from 1996-97 to 2000-2001;

(b) the increased share of Navy, Coast Guard and Air Force therein, separately; and

(c) the steps being taken to modernise and increase the fighting capability of Army, Navy and the Air Force to meet the threats perceptions in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES)

(a) to (c): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (c) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 277 FOR 15.3.2001

The actual Defence expenditure (net Revenue and Capital) from 1996-97 to 1999-2000 and the provision made for Defence expenditure in the Revised Estimates for the year 2000-2001 are as under:-

Year	Defence Expenditure (Rs. in crores)	Percentage increase over earlier year
1996-1997	29505.08	9.86
1997-1998	35277.99	19.57
1998-1999	39897.58	13.10
1999-2000	47070.63	17.98
2000-2001(RE)	54460.91	15.70

The share of Navy & Air Force in the Defence expenditure mentioned above is as under:

Year	Expenditure on Navy	Percentage of Total Defence Expenditure	Expenditure on Air Force	Percentage of Total Defence Expenditure
1996-1997	3976.23	13.5	7492.30	25.4
1997-1998	4764.56	13.5	9126.83	25.9
1998-1999	6015.54	15.0	9046.16	22.7
1999-2000	6836.77	14.5	10243.04	21.8
2000-2001(RE)	8214.19	15.0	11333.98	20.8

The expenditure on Coast Guard is met from the Grants of Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance and not out of Defence Budget. The actual expenditure on Coast Guard for 1996-97 to 1999-2000 and the provision made in the Revised Estimate 2000-2001 are as under:

Year	Expenditure on Coast Guard (Rs. in crores)
1996-1997	220.24
1997-1998	248.55

1998-1999	265.90
1999-2000	343.60
2000-2001(RE)	415.00

Modernising and increasing the fighting capability of Army, Navy and Air Force is a continuous process which inter alia includes acquisition of new platforms and weapon systems, upgradation of existing ones and induction of force multipliers. Adequate Budget provisions have been made to sustain these efforts to meet the threat perceptions in future.